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To: DES SBCC
Subject: Testimony for SBCC Hearings

External Email

Greetings,

My name is Alex Fay and I am a registered nurse who lives and works in Seattle. I wanted to thank the council for providing the opportunity to testify. While I'm unable to attend the SBCC meetings to testify, I wanted to send an email and submit my testimony in favor of updating the residential code.

I work as a registered nurse in community health, and many of my clients are low income, living in apartments and rented dwellings, or homeless. Because of their socioeconomic status, they often do not have the ability to upgrade their homes and apartments from gas stoves to heat pumps and other renewable energy sources. This leaves them disproportionately burdened by the health effects of gas stoves, including asthma and cardiovascular diseases. Requiring heat pumps and improved ventilation will allow anyone living in new homes and buildings to have improved health, regardless of their income or socioeconomic status.

Requiring heat pumps and improved ventilation in residential buildings would mean improved health and wellness for myself, my family, and the communities I work with. Updating these codes will not only have great benefits for our environment, especially since Washington's building sector is the fastest growing source of carbon emission, but would also benefit the health and wellness of our communities by improving air quality indoors and decreasing exposure to fine particulate matter released from gas stoves.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit testimony, and I urge you to update the residential code.

Alex Fay
BSN, RN